

ROMANS CHAPTER 6

This deals with sanctification vs. justification

Justification	Sanctification
declares us righteous	makes us righteous
removes guilt and penalty of sin	removes power of sin

Sanctification is not a duty but a fact.

v.1 Question is asked in such a way that there is only one answer.

- Is the plan of grace “safe”? Won’t people abuse grace? If God’s salvation and approval are given on the basis of faith instead of works, won’t we just say “I believe” and then live any way we please?

- From a purely natural or secular viewpoint, grace is dangerous. This is why many people don’t really teach or believe in grace and instead emphasize living by law. They believe that if you tell people that God saves and accepts them apart from what they deserve, then they will have no motivation to be obedient. In their opinion, you simply can’t keep people on the straight and narrow without a threat from God hanging over their head. If they believe their position in Jesus is settled because of what Jesus did, then the motivation of holy living is gone.

v.2 key is death to sin

v.3-6 This is how we know that we are free. He died, we died with Him. He rose so we rose with Him. **Read Ephesians 1:15-2:10**

- baptized- fully immersed in and with, like a dyed cloth, a sponge

- death- buried with Him

- resurrected- **what happens to the resurrected body ? Does it continue to live in the grave? The tomb is fine for a dead man but a living one- Jesus left the tomb !**

v.6 knowing this (gnosko- know by experience)- this is a positional statement- because we know these things to be true, we can now implement the practical side of them

* A little girl fell out of bed and her mother asked her how she fell out of bed, the girl replied " I stayed too close to the place where I got in"

- the body of sin done away with- destroyed, not the flesh literally as we will see in verse 12 but the bondage to it, the ownership that it has over us

- no longer slaves to sin- we no longer have to sin, we have a choice

v.7 we have freedom- not license to do what we want but freedom not to obey sin any longer

v.9 knowing this (eido- absolute knowledge of a fact)

v.11 Reckon or account yourself to have died with Him

v.12 Don't let sin reign- it is our choice- we have the power through the Holy Spirit not to sin- we still have the sin nature there but it need not have power

v.13 Don't put yourself in a position to sin but in a position to obey

- it is an either/or situation, there is no neutral- you cannot be in two places at once

In the fourteenth century two brothers fought for the right to rule over a dukedom in what is now Belgium. The elder brother's name was Raynald, but he was commonly called "Crassus," a Latin nickname meaning "fat," for he was horribly obese. After a heated battle, Raynald's younger brother Edward led a successful revolt against him and assumed the title of Duke over his lands. But instead of killing Raynald, Edward devised a curious imprisonment. He had a room in the castle built around "Crassus," a room with only one door. The door was not locked, the windows were not barred, and Edward promised Raynald that he could regain his land and his title any time that he wanted to. All he would have to do is leave

the room of his imprisonment. The obstacle to freedom was not in the doors or the windows, but with Raynald himself. Being grossly overweight, he could not fit through the door, even though it was of near-normal size. All Raynald needed to do was diet down to a smaller size, then walk out a free man, with all he had before his fall. However, his younger brother kept sending him an assortment of tasty foods, and Raynald's desire to be free never won out over his desire to eat. Some would accuse Duke Edward of being cruel to his older brother, but he would simply reply, "My brother is not a prisoner. He may leave when he so wills." But Raynald stayed in that room for ten years, until Edward himself was killed in battle.

What an accurate picture showing the experience of many Christians! Jesus has set them forever free legally, and they may walk in that freedom from sin whenever they choose. But since they keep yielding their bodily appetites to the service of sin, they live a life of defeat, discouragement and imprisonment.

v.15 different kind of question than in verse 1, do we now need another law to keep us from sinning ? NO

v.16 we are justified but we choose sanctification-

- Galatians 5:16 I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish....25 If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

v.17 The phrase **that form of doctrine** is part of a beautiful picture. The word **form** describes a mold used to shape molten metal. The idea is that God wants to shape us - first He melts us by the work of the Holy Spirit and the Word of God. Then He pours us into His mold of truth - **that form of doctrine** and shapes us into His image.

v. 18 Slaves of righteousness: What does it mean to be a slave? A slave was more than an employee. Greek scholar Kenneth Wuest defines the ancient Greek word for a slave here by these terms:

- One born into a condition of slavery
- One whose will is swallowed up in the will of another
- One who is bound to the master with bounds that only death can break
- One who serves his master to the disregard of his own interest

The following was once true in regard to our slavery to sin:

- We were born as slaves to sin
- Our will was swallowed up and captive to the will of sin within us
- Our bondage to sin was so strong that only death - spiritually dying with Jesus on the cross - could break the bondage
- We were so enslaved to sin that we served it to the disregard of our own interest, even when sin destroyed us

Now the following is true in regard to our slavery to righteousness:

- We are born again, now as slaves to righteousness
- Our will is now swallowed up in the will of God. It is His will that matters to us, not our own
- We are bound to Jesus with bonds that only death can break; but since He has triumphed over death and given us eternal life, those bonds will never be broken!
- We now willingly serve Jesus to the disregard of our own interests

v.23 end result of sin or righteous gift of life- bailout